

## SOME SIDELIGHTS ON THE MEXICAN WAR

By A VETERAN.

The fever-pot of Vera Cruz had been captured four times before the Spaniards came in, dressed in the usual Japanese dress of a person of rank, accompanied by the executioner, who was his pupil and most intimate friend. He walked with a steady, firm step in front of the altar, where he knelt in prayer. He then arose and went to the cloth, where he knelt and made the confession that he was the officer that ordered his troops to fire upon the foreigners and also to fire upon them when they were trying to escape, and that he was sorry for what he had done.

Then he disrobed himself to his waist and reached out for a knife that was near him, which he thrust into his bowels and drawing it toward his right side, and leaning forward at the same time the executioner, with one blow from his sword, severed his head from his body. This occurred at about 10:30 p. m.

"The Japanese then bowed to the floor, on which we all did the same. We were then asked if we were satisfied with what we had witnessed, when we replied in the affirmative.

"After the lapse of a few moments we were informed that all was over, when we arose and took our departure. The whole scene was one of great solemnity and very impressive.

"Your obedient servant.

J. BLAKELEY CREIGHTON,

"Commander."

What War Really Means.

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## FUSTON'S MEN HOLD VERA CRUZ

While Martial Law Still Continues in Force the Actual Municipal Government is Being Conducted by the American Civil Governor.

Vera Cruz, May 1.—The task of

governing the city of Vera Cruz and its

vicinity was taken over from the

navy by Brigadier General Frederick

Fuston and the Fifth Infantry brigade

of the United States army.

While the martial law still continues

in force the actual municipal govern-

ment is being conducted by Robert J.

Kerr, the American civil governor,

who has enlisted the aid of Mexican

officials to act under his superintend-

ance and in accordance with Mexican

laws.

After a morning enlivened by the

re-establishment under the control of its

people and a civil government formed

to carry out the laws of the state and

of the federal government.

"All preparations were made during

this time for the landing of the army

and for the relief and withdrawal of

our own forces.

"The officers and men of the naval

forces deserve the highest commenda-

tion for having progressively done

this work completely and having done

it well.

"The highest honor is due to those

who gave their lives in the service of

their country.

"In withdrawing my command from

Vera Cruz, I wish to extend to the

officers and men who took part in its

occupation my deepest appreciation

for their gallant conduct and support.

"In turning our work over to the

army, the navy extends its best wishes

and good will. (Signed).

"FRANK F. FLETCHER,

"Rear Admiral, U. S. N."

"Commanding United States naval

forces on shore."

11,000 firearms were taken possession

of and a line of defenses established

around the city against an army

threatening to recapture it.

"Business has been resumed and nor-

mal conditions restored. The municipal

government of the city has been

re-established under the control of its

people and a civil government formed

to carry out the laws of the state and

of the federal government.

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As the various detachments swung

into the streets their flags flying and

playing martial airs, leading them,

the natives appeared on their balconies

and gazed with undisguised wonder

at the sight of the ranks of brown

clothed men. The people seemed to

marvel at the precision of the march

of the soldiers' movements and the

sturdy appearance of the men in the

rank.

Many American civilians, who had

been taking their breakfast outdoors

left their tables and watched with

pride the passing of the newly ar-

rived troops, shouting volleys of "hur-

rah" and waving hats or handker-

chiefs at them.

Shortly after the last of the troops

had passed through the central

streets of the city, Brigadier General

Fuston, with several aides, drove by

the main entrance of the city and

on a tour of inspection.

When the men had taken up their

stations and the reports had been re-

ceived by Brigadier General Fuston,

official calls were exchanged between

Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, Gov-

ernor, and J. R. Kerr and Brigadier

General Fuston.

Later in the day an order was is-

ued by Rear Admiral Fletcher, who

had been in command of the opera-

tions ashore since the landing of the

American naval forces. The order

was that the whole of the city since

the taking of the city and read as follows:

Fletcher Praises Forces.

Headquarters of the United States

naval forces on shore, Vera Cruz,

Mexico, April 30, 1914.

## FLETCHER SEIZES TERMINAL PLANT

Vera Cruz, April 29.—Rear Admiral

Fletcher seized the pier, yards and

buildings of the terminal company, a

British owned concern, control over

to the price to be paid. The manage-

ment quoted a figure which the naval

authorities considered exorbitant and

Admiral Fletcher ended the contro-

versy by taking advantage of his pow-

ers under martial law, assuming con-

trol of the property. The seizure

was made with no other formalities

than the announcement that Admiral

Fletcher was in control of the prop-

erty.

Prior to the seizure a high official

of the company had a British flag raised

over the water station far out in the

yards, in the belief that such action

might prevent the Americans from tak-

ing over the property. It availed him

nothing, however. M. Mooroom, man-

ager of the Mexican railway, and

president of the terminal company,

called on Rear Admiral Crook, of the

British cruiser Essex and related

the circumstances to him. The ad-

miral advised Mr. Mooroom to pre-

sent his claims to the British foreign

office. The terminal company is a

British concern, the stock of which

is owned by the railroads, two of

which, the Inter-oceanic and the

Mexican, are British owned. For the

operation of the property the military

authorities are using railroad men

who have just arrived at Vera Cruz

and who offered their services in any

capacity.

Within His Rights.

London, April 29.—The seizure by

Rear Admiral Frank Fletcher of the

property of the British owned terminal

company at Vera Cruz is accepted by

the British government and Gen. Hur-

st, the British ambassador in Mexico

city, has expressed his approval of

the action. It was stated that if the

terminal company presents a claim to

the British foreign office it will be

forwarded to Washington in the

ordinary course.

Urge Halt in Operations.

Washington, April 30.—An armistice

in the difficulties between the United

States and Mexico has been asked

by the British government and Gen. Hur-

st, the British ambassador in Mexico

city, has expressed his approval of

the action. It was stated that if the

terminal company presents a claim to